

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554**

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Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

In the Matter of

Amendment of Section 73.202(b),
Table of Allotments,
FM Broadcast Stations.
(Odin, Illinois)

MB Docket No. 05-86
RM-11165

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

To: Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Attn: Chief, Audio Division
Media Bureau

COMMENTS AND COUNTERPROPOSAL

Benjamin L. Stratemeyer, by his undersigned attorneys and pursuant to Section 1.420 of the Commission's rules, hereby submits his Comments and Counterproposal in response to the above-referenced Notice of Proposed Rule Making ("NPRM"). The NPRM was issued in response to the Petition for Rule Making filed by Charles Crawford to add Channel 288A at Odin, Illinois. Mr. Stratemeyer requests that the Commission allot Channel 288A at Altamont, Illinois in lieu of Mr. Crawford's requested allotment at Odin. As demonstrated herein, the Altamont proposal is preferable to the Odin proposal because it will provide a first local service to the larger community. Mr. Stratemeyer hereby states his interest in this new facility, commits to apply for Channel 288A at Altamont should this proposal be granted, and promises to promptly construct the facilities should he be granted the construction permit.

As set forth in the attached engineering statement of William J. Getz, Channel 288A can be allotted at Altamont consistent with Commission rules with a site restriction of 6.0 kilometers southwest of the city at the reference coordinates 39-01-44 North Latitude and 88-48-22 West Longitude. *See* Exhibit 1 hereto.

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Mr. Stratemeyer's proposed allotment will provide Altamont, a community of 2,258 people, with its first local service. By contrast, Odin has only 1,122 people. Accordingly, the allotment at Altamont is preferred. Altamont is a community for allotment purposes. The incorporated city has its own municipal government comprised of a mayor and city council. The city maintains its own post office, police and fire departments, and a local library, the Altamont Public Library. The city also has its own local schools, Altamont Grade School serving pre-kindergarten through Grade 8 and Altamont High School serving Grades 9 through 12, as well as a private elementary school, the Altamont Lutheran Interparish School. In addition, there are numerous churches and local businesses in Altamont. *See Exhibit 2.* Thus, Altamont has all of the attributes of a community for allotment purposes.

Conclusion

For the reasons set forth herein, the Commission should adopt this counterproposal, and allot Channel 288A at Altamont, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted,

BENJAMIN L. STRATEMEYER

By: *Veronica D. McLaughlin Tippet*
Clifford M. Harrington
Veronica D. McLaughlin Tippet

Its Attorneys

PILLSBURY WINTHROP
SHAW PITTMAN LLP
2300 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037-1128
(202) 663-8000

Dated: April 25, 2005

EXHIBIT 1

CARL T. JONES
CORPORATION

**STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. GETZ
IN SUPPORT OF
COMMENTS AND COUNTERPROPOSAL
IN MM DOCKET NO. 05-86, RM-11165**

I am a Radio Engineer, an employee in the firm of Carl T. Jones Corporation with offices located in Springfield, Virginia. My education and experience are a matter of record with the Federal Communications Commission.

This office has been authorized to prepare this statement and the attached exhibit in support of a counterproposal and Comments in MM Docket No. 05-86. On March 2, 2005, the Audio Division adopted a *Notice of Proposed Rulemaking* ("NPRM") in response to a Petition for Rulemaking filed by Charles Crawford ("Crawford"). The NPRM set forth the lead petitioner's request to modify Section 73.202(b) of the FCC Rules by adding Channel 288A at Odin, Illinois, and established a Comment date of April 25, 2005. This counterproposal requests Channel 288A at Altamont, Illinois, in lieu of Crawford's request for Channel 288A at Odin, Illinois (a "village" according to U.S. Census data with a 2000 population of 1,140 persons). As shown below, the Altamont proposal should be preferred over the Odin proposal because it offers a new first local service to a larger community.

Channel 288A at Altamont, Illinois, in lieu of Channel 288A at Odin, Illinois

An engineering study of all pertinent allotments, assignments and applications revealed that Channel 288A can be added to Altamont, Illinois (a U.S. Census Designated City with a 2000 population of 2,258 persons) as a first local service with a site restriction

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. GETZ
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6.0 km southwest. The allotment reference coordinates for Channel 288A at Altamont, Illinois, are 39° 01' 44" N.L. and 88° 48' 22" W.L.¹ The Altamont allotment reference site meets allotment standards, the minimum spacing requirements of §73.207 (except as noted below) and the city-grade coverage requirements of §73.315 of the FCC Rules.

In the instant proceeding, the FCC's NPRM sets forth Crawford's request to modify Section 73.202(b) of the FCC Rules by adding Channel 288A at Odin, Illinois. Crawford's Channel 288A allotment reference site is separated from the proposed Altamont, Channel 288A allotment reference site by 46.53 km. Because this distance is less than the required 115 kilometer, cochannel, Class A to Class A, minimum distance separation specified in Section 73.207 of the FCC Rules, the proposed use of Channel 288A at Altamont is in conflict with the Crawford's lead proposal. Therefore, the instant proposal is considered a counterproposal in MB Docket 05-86.

Both the lead petition and the instant counterproposal propose to add a new first local service to a different community. The counterproposal must be preferred over the lead petition because the counterproposal will provide a first local service to the larger of the two communities.²

¹ An existing tower (FCC Antenna Structure Registration Number 1009493) is located at the Altamont allotment reference site.

² See *Blanchard, Louisiana, and Stephens, Arkansas*, 10 FCC Rcd 9828 (1995); *Rose Hill, Trenton, Aurora and Ocracoke*, North Carolina, 11 FCC Rcd 21223 (MMB 1996), *affd* 15 FCC Rcd 10739 (MMB 2000) *rev. denied* 16 FCC Rcd 15610 (2001); see also *West Liberty and Richwood, Ohio*, 6 FCC Rcd 6068 (MMB 1991); *Three Oaks and Bridgman, Michigan*, 5 FCC Rcd 1004 (MMB 1990); *Clarksville and Lanesville, Indiana*, 4 FCC Rcd 4968 (MMB 1989).

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM J. GETZ
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This statement was prepared by me or under my direct supervision and is believed to be true and correct.

DATED: April 19, 2005


William J. Getz

EXHIBIT 2

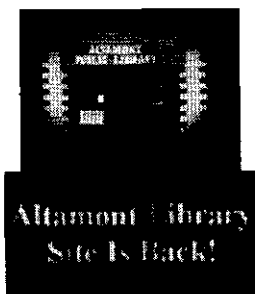
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Altamont, Illinois

WELCOME TO OUR HOME TOWN



Special Thanks To All
Who Have Donated
And Helped With This
Project



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Scenes



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UNION CEMETERY

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City Profile

Altamont is a growing community with a population of 2300. Located in Effingham on Interstate 70 and U.S. Route 40, the city is midway between St. Louis, Missouri Terre Haute, Indiana.

Altamont is a progressive community with an excellent school system, active business district, numerous churches and attractive residential neighborhoods and subdivisions. Agriculture is a prominent force in the Altamont area but complements the existing manufacturing employment locally and within the county.

Altamont is a community that strives to provide a range of activities from the Altamont Living Museum to the excitement of the Effingham County Fair to the linkage of the visiting the Winter's Steam Engine Museum.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Commercial Buildings

Locality

Commercial Sites

Contact Information

Telephone

618-483-5212

FAX

618-483-6255

Postal address

202 North Second Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411

Electronic mail

General Information: admin@altamontil.net
Chamber of Commerce: chamber@altamontil.net
Customer Support: cityhall@altamontil.net
Webmaster: webmaster@altamontil.net

Altamont, IL

Get the 10 day forecast

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72°F

Partly Cloudy

Feels Like: 72°F

Humidity: 61%

Wind: NE at 2 mph

Enter city/zip



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(This site is best viewed at 800 X 600)

17102

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Appreciation is extended to all who contributed time and effort to the information in this book.

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Altamont, Illinois

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On August 8, 1872, the Town of Altamont adopted the Village form of government which consists of a Mayor and four Council Members. On April 16, 1901, the voters of the Village of Altamont adopted the City Organization form of government and became the City of Altamont.

The City also maintains and operates its own utility system.

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Mayor and Council

Mayor Larry Taylor

Commissioner Charles "Bill" Jones

Accounts and Finance

Commissioner Jason Williams

Public Health and Safety

Commissioner Gerald White, Jr.

Public Property

Commissioner Donald Zeigler

Streets and Public Improvements

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The Altamont News

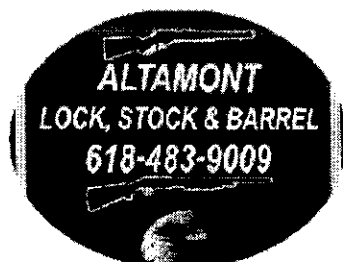
Since 1881

Effingham County's Oldest Newspaper



Barns Realty 4 So. Main

**EFFINGHAM
EQUITY**





1 W. Washington • P.O. Box 222
Altamont, Illinois



115 N. Main St.
Altamont, IL 62411

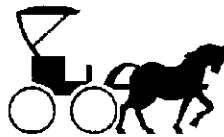


Sell-It-Center
305A East Cumberland
618-483-3338

chamber@altamontil.net

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Altamont, Illinois

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Once upon a time, as local legend goes, one Griffin Tipsword came to this part of Illinois and took up his abode with the Kickapoo Indians. At this time these Indians were peaceable and indifferent to the coming and the struggle of a white man. Tipsword was a white man by birth and an Indian by adoption. He was a pioneer, a missionary preacher, hunter and medicine man among the Indians. Our Altamont Indians no doubt got their name from Tipsword's association with his friends, the Indians. Tipsword's family name was Souards. He called himself Tipsword after coming to Illinois. Griffin died in 1845 and was buried on the banks of Wolff Creek, leaving three sons, John, Isaac and Thomas, who have left many descendants in the Altamont area today.

Altamont, the "City of Plain", was laid out in Mound Township, the richest and best township in Effingham County - being mostly prairies and farm ground - slightly rolling along the streams, Big Creek, Coon Creek and Second Creek. Mound Township was settled early by German immigrants coming from the "Faderland" on the banks of the Rhine by way of Pennsylvania and Ohio.

The name Altamont, like the name Mound Township, was bestowed upon it by J.W. Conlogue because of the elevation or "mound" which lies to the northwest. The first part of the word meaning altitude, the latter part mound or mound. Conlogue was a romantic, thus naming his town from Latin.

In early *History of Effingham County* edited by William Henry Perrin in 1883, he wrote: "The name of Mound Township was bestowed upon it in consequence of what is known as the neighborhood of Blue Mound, a slight elevation of Section 8, which is nearly all a kind of mound, the apex being in the center of the section, and having an altitude of seventy-eight feet above the bed of the Vandalia Railroad, which passes near it. Recently, the Government has erected a signal observatory upon it, some seventy-five to one hundred feet

in height, from the top of which one may look across the States of Missouri and Arkansas and see the cowboys watching their herds on the prairies of Texas."

On the bank of the small creek just south of what is now Altamont (Southmore Heights) there had been established a little trading center called Montville. The postmaster was G.H. Milleville and in 1871 the post office was moved to this new place called Altamont. Altamont was first organized as a town in 1871.

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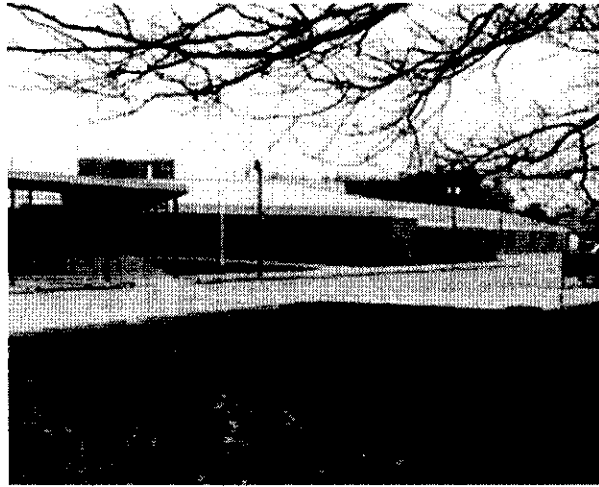
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Schools In Our City Consist Of Two Public, One Private And One Preschool.

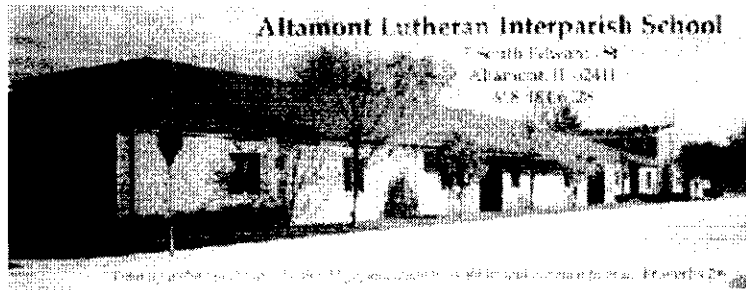
Our schools maintain their individual websites and do a
great job of it.
To visit their sites please click on the school of your choice
below.



*Altamont High School
7 South Ewing Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411
618-483-6193*



*Altamont Grade School
407 South Edwards Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411
618-483-5171*



*Altamont Lutheran Interparish School
7 South Edwards Street
Altamont, Illinois 62411
618-483-6428*



*Frog Pond Nursery School
107 West Lincoln Avenue*

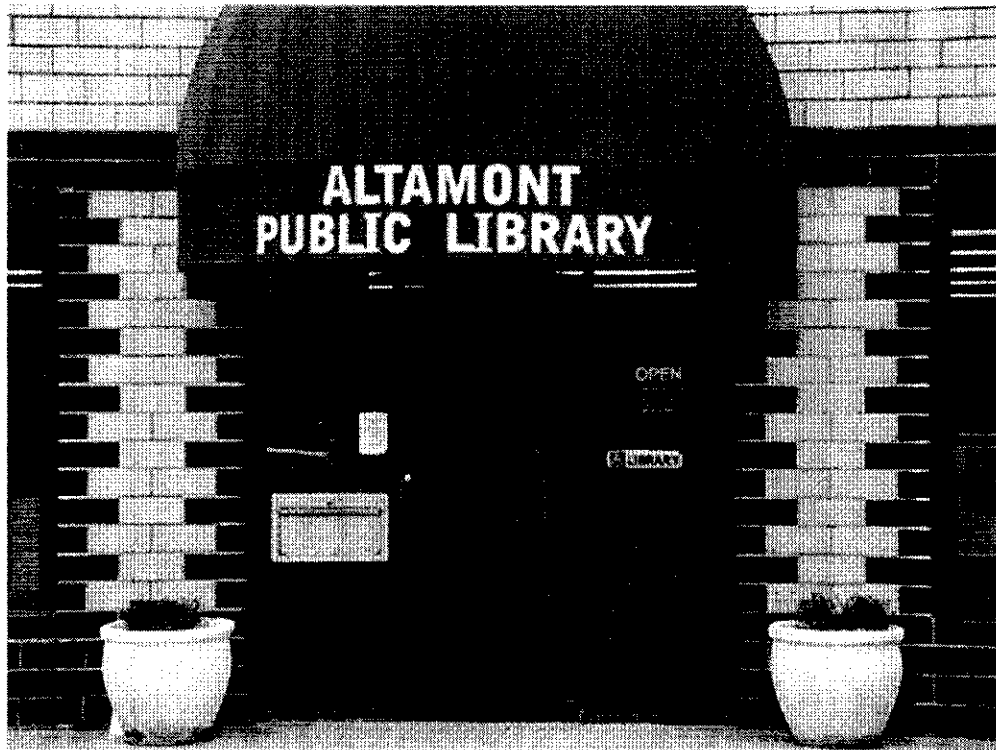
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Altamont Public Library

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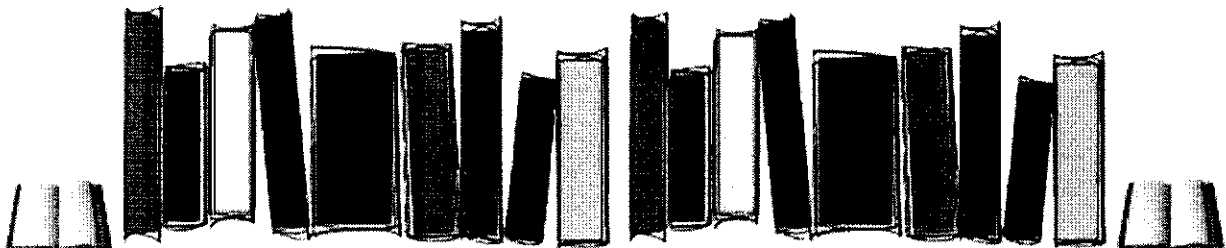
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Hours

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Thursday 5-8
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Saturday 9-1



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Altamont, Illinois

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RETURN TO CATEGORY LISTING

A & H Implement Co.	202 W. Cumberland	483-6178
A Yard of Stitches	206 Meadows Dr	483-3456
A.D.M.	601 W. Division	483-6173
Advanced Building Products		483-6928
After The Hunt - Clint Reardon	7710 E. 1275th Ave	483-3342
Aloette Cosmetics of Illinois	7993 N. 750th St.	800-282-2563
Altamont Affordable Homes, Inc.	1 N. Fox Run	483-5001
Altamont Ambulance Service	2 S. Main	483-6911
Altamont Bank	5 W. Lincoln	483-9106
Altamont Chamber of Commerce	202 N. 2nd	483-5714
Altamont Christian Church	407 E. Lincoln	483-6018
Altamont City of	202 N. 2nd	483-5212
Altamont Clinic	8 N. 3rd	483-6151
Altamont Dairy Bar	600 S. Main	483-5656
✓ Altamont Fire Department		483-6161
Altamont Grade School	407 S. Edwards	483-5171
Altamont Headstart Centers	6409 N. 200th St	483-3710
Altamont High School	7 S. Ewing	483-6193
Altamont Independent	1 W. Washington	483-3333
Altamont Lock, Stock & Barrel	110 N. 3rd St.	483-9009

Altamont Lumber Co.	116 N. 3rd	483-5155
<u>Altamont Lutheran Interparish School</u>	Edwards & Lincoln	483-6428
Altamont Motel	101 W. Cumberland	483-6143
Altamont News Banner	118 N. Main	483-6176
Altamont Overhead Door Inc	6646 N. 100th St	483-5961
Altamont Pharmacy	12 N. 3rd	483-5614
✓ Altamont Police Dept	202 N. 2nd	483-6219
Altamont Post Office		483-6314
Altamont Public Library	121 W. Washington	483-5457
Altamont Sales & Service	109 N. Main	483-6319
Altamont School District Office	7 S. Ewing	483-6195
Altamont Softball	2 Industrial Dr	483-5029
Altamont Veterinary Clinic	2474 E. US Hwy 40	483-5333
Altamont Wholesale Co.	6 N. 4th	483-6155
Alwerdt's Gardens	3238 E. 800th Ave	483-5798
<u>American Real Estate</u>	102 N. Third St.	483-9399
Austin's Muffler	307 E. Cumberland	483-5520
Austin's Parts Express	106 W. Cumberland	483-5558
Avon Ind. S. Rep. - Sara' Ann Jones	106 N. Bond	483-6369
Bailey Family Chiropractic	1 E. Jefferson Ave.	483-3838
Ballard Nature Center	5253 E. US Hwy 40	483-6856
Basf Corp.	109 Ash	483-6729
Beccue Builders	2513 E. 600th Ave	483-5883
Beckers Wash & Dry		
Bethlehem Lutheran Church	6367 N. 200th St	483-6646
Blossom Paradise	5 S. Main	483-6168
Blue House Antiques & Country		
Friends Crafts	10600 N. 300th St.	483-3825
Brauer Carl Tax Preparation, Insurance, & Accounting	104 Oak	483-6749
C'Berts Body Shop	4690 E. US Hwy 40	483-9936
Carol's Cut & Curl Cottage	605 W. Cumberland	483-3009
Casey's Carry-Out Pizza	101 E. Cumberland Rd	483-3320
Casey's General Store	101 E. Cumberland	483-5902
<u>Century 21 Barns Realty</u>	4 S. Main	483-5312
Chem Group	1021 E. 1000th Ave	483-3000
Clarkson's Furniture	14 N. 2nd	483-5144

Connie's Magic Mirror	11 W. John Adams	483-6394
Contemporary Home Improvement	8552 N. Campground Ct.	483-3902
Corbin Pilot Car Service	702 W. Monroe	483-5247
Country Companies - Jesse Heischmidt	200 N. Main	483-5020
Countryside Disposal Inc	550 E. 700th Ave	483-3526
Crown Limousine	722 Meadows	483-6306
<u>Culpeper Feed Store</u>	211 W. Jefferson	483-6555
Cuts By Us	112 N. 2nd	483-9557
D Lines Inc.	2936 E. 800th Ave	483-5471
Deb's Catering	600 S. Main	483-5656
Dentist - Christopher Sehy, DMD	1 S. 3rd	483-6003/6180
Design A Sign	4194 E. 600th Ave	483-5710
Diana's Cut & Curl	704 Prairie	483-5553
Dollar General	15 N. Main St.	483-9937
Dona Photography	904 S. Main	483-6000
Don's Floor Covering	8 S. Cole	483-6175
Don's Refrigeration	12 s. Cole	483-6175
Effingham County Fair Association	722 E. Cumberland	483-6717
Effingham Equity	905 S. Main	483-6365
Emro Marketing	1011 S. Main	483-3307
Et Vas Alt Antiques	8 S. Main St.	483-3863
Exhaust Works	107 E Cumberland	483-5520
EZ Storage	2478 E. 800th Ave	483-5519
<u>First Baptist Church</u>	102 First Baptist Dr.	483-3250/6443
First Mid-Illinois Bank & Trust	101 W. Washington	483-5151
Fitzwilliam Construction	Rt 1 St Elmo	483-5236
Flea Market Consignment Botique	108 N. Main	483-6423
Fostoria Factory Outlets		483-5567
Frederking Construction Co.	8595 N. 300th St	483-5031
Frederking Developing Co. & Real Estate	2655 E. Campground Rd.	483-6332/5338
<u>Frog Pond Nursery School</u>	107 W. Lincoln	483-6633
Fulk, Lance - Investments	108 N. Main St.	483-3269
Galloway's Barber Shop	5 N. Main	None
Garst Seed	3512 E. 900th Ave	483-5308
Giesecking Ambulance Service	208 N. 2nd	483-6821
Giesecking Funeral Home	208 N. 2nd	483-6821

Golden Circle Nutrition Center		483-6912
Greenleaf Designs	1255 E. 900th Ave	483-5991
Griffith Insurance	2 S. Main	483-5705
H & B Welding Supply	Rt 3	483-5708
Hair For You	2788 E. Hanover	483-6847
Haker Auto Sales	5 E. Cumberland	483-6636
Heidanes Hidden Timbers	5614 E. 825 Ave	483-5179
Henley, Reece & Associates	109 N. 2nd	483-9137
Hites Home & Remodeling	14 N. 9th	483-5890
Holste Insurance Agency	112 N. 3rd	483-5820
Horste Drywall & Supply	8511 N. Empire Dr	483-5642
Illinois Central Mobile Home Serv.	4855 N. 100th St	483-9136
Illinois Southwest Co.	5791 E. Us Hwy 40	483-5039
Immanuel Lutheran Church	203 E. Division	483-6395
Independent Printing	1 W. Washington	483-3333
Insurance - Dan Lutz - State Farm	9 N. Main	483-6920
Insurance - David Corder	2927 E. Campground Rd.	483-6256
Insurance -AAL Dick Eckhardt	211 E. Meadows Ln	483-6812
Insurance -AAL Ryan Eckhardt		483-6167
Integrity Sales Group		483-6252
Iron Horse Mobile Welding & Fabricating	5423 E. 700th Ave	483-3213
Irwin Telescopic Seating	610 E. Cumberland	483-6157
Jafrá Cosmetics - Deb Schultz	3405 E. 875 Ave	483-5423
Janet's Upholstery	4700 E. US Hwy 40	483-9930
JD's PC's	1 W. Washington	483-3222
Jim's Locksmith Service	108 Oak	483-6190
Joe's Car Care	601 W. Jefferson	483-5024
Judy's Greenhouse	802 E. Division	483-6852
K's House of Beauty	308 S. 3rd	483-6302
Kelly Truck & Equipment Sales	2488 E. 800th Ave	483-5818
Ken Young Wedding	106 S. Ewing	483-6045
Knights Inn	1304 S. Main	483-6101
Kull Funeral Home	114 W. Washington	483-6323
Kull Furniture Galleries	114 W. Washington	483-6323
Kyle's Small Engine	305 E. Cumberland Rd	483-5635

L C Builders	R 1	483-6124
Landmark Structures Inc.	8590 N. 300th St	483-3131
Larry's Auto Clean	4125 E. 900th Ave	483-3167
Lighthouse Independent Baptist Church	2473 E. US Hwy 40	483-6575
Lions' Liquor	Hwy 40	483-5926
Lock, Stock & Barrel	110 N. 3rd St.	483-9009
Lukenbach's Tavern	112 W. Adams	483-6820
Lucky's Custom Truck Accessories	3 S. Main St.	483-3888
Luther Terrace	702 W. Cumberland	483-6136
Lutheran Care Center	702 W. Cumberland	483-6136
M & J Remodeling	111 S. 4th St.	483-5557
<u>Main Street Antiques & Collectibles</u>	6 S. Main St.	483-5605
Management Consultant - Ronald Heidbreder	2673 E. Campground Rd	483-5432
Marathon Pipeline Co (Handy Dans)		483-5411
Marshall Clinic - Altamont	4 W. Grant	483-6111
Mary Kay - Deb Frailey	212 E. Meadows Ln	483-6568
Mary Kay - Barb Williams	405 S. 8th	483-9197/618- 322-0383
Mathias Electric & Plumbing Inc	9622 N 1st St	483-6975
MBS Communications	8597 N. 300th St	483-5755
McDonalds of Altamont	1010 S. Main	483-5354
Mid-Illinois Concrete Inc - Altamont	804 W. Division	483-6420
Midwest Speed Sale Co. Inc	104 Whitler Lane	483-5658
Mound Prairie Gardens	11275 N. 300th St.	483-5752
Moundside Farm & Fence	10440 N. 200th St	483-6048
Mr Paint Ball	1 W. Washington	483-3222
Muncy's Auto Credit	4 E. Cumberland Rd	483-9991
Needful Things		
Northside Beauty Shop	10 W. Jackson	483-5537
Novatek Medical	116 N. Main	483-9198
<u>P.D. Computers</u>	Altamont Server	800-500-6201
<u>Peoples Bank & Trust</u>	511 S. Main	483-5136
Photo Reflections	109 E. Washington	483-6116
Physicians & Surgeons - Frost Robert MD	8 N. 3rd	483-6151
Physicians & Surgeons - Schwarm, Brent MD	205 N. Main	483-6131

Physicians & Surgeons - Hewitt Rebecca MD	4 W. Grant	483-6111
Physicians & Surgeons - Mathews Beth RNC	4 W. Grant	483-6111
Physicians & Surgeons - Rozene Tina MD	4 W. Grant	483-6111
Physicians & Surgeons - Sehy Christopher DMD	1 S. 3rd	483-6003/6180
Piece-able Kingdom Antiques	3 N. Main St.	483-3684
Prairie Farms - Dave Stuemke	504 S. Tenth St.	483-6652
Promotional - Norman Miller	306 S. 8th	483-6241
Putnam Plastics Inc	4 N. Main	483-5110
Quade Computers	1795 N. 500th St.	483-5305
Quality Care Medicoach	2 S. Main	483-6804
R & H Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning	123 N. Main	483-6159
<u>Randy's Family Sport Pub</u>	3061 E. Mill Dr.	483-9866
Ray's Sanitation Service		483-6664
<u>RC Buildings</u>	2624 E. 475th Ave	483-5204
Rouleau Industries, LLC	208 N. 10th	483-6297
S & W Supermarket Inc	3 N. Main	483-6191
Schaal's Barber Shop	108 N. St Clair	483-6745
Seidel Electric	11 John Adams	483-6394
<u>Sell-It-Center</u>	305A E. Cumberland	483-3338
Sell-It-Center		
Shear Magic By Shellie	1184 E. 1600th Ave	483-9263
Shull Wayne	120 N. Main	483-6411
Siebert Equipment	4700 E. US Hwy 40	483-9930
Southtown 66	Exit I-70	483-5819
Special T's	7 N. Main St.	483-3077
Sporty's	8745 N. 300th St	483-3088
St. Clare Catholic Church Rectory	216 N. 9th	483-5346
St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church	2293 E. US Hwy 40	483-5249
Step By Step Studio	103 N. Main	483-3112
Stewardson Auto Center	4728 E. Hwy 40	483-3709
Super 8 Motel	I70 & Altamont Exit	483-6300
<u>Taylor Law Offices</u>	200 N. Main	483-6119
Telltale Productions		483-6479

The Cookie Jar	119 W. Washington	483-9004
The Dentist Choice	6593 N. 300th St	483-9322
The Farmer's Daughter	505 N. Main	483-6390
<u>The Home Center</u>	115 N. Main	483-6164
Tip's Corner Tavern	118 N. 2nd	483-5814
Todd Kemme Construction	807 Aker Dr.	483-5234
Tony's Hair Studio	101 N. Main	483-3002
Triangle Video	105 E. Cumberland	483-5855
US Postal Service	120 N. Frontage Road	483-6915
V F W Club	302 W. Cumberland	483-6344
Verizon Telephone Co.		800-483-5600
Voelker Home for Seniors	2587 475th Ave	483-3199
Watercolors	115 N. Main	483-5802
Wells Cleaning Service	212 S. Edwards	483-5709
Westaff	120 N. Frontage Rd.	483-6955
Winter Appraisal	305 S. 8th	483-6162
Wolf Kent Trucking & Septic Systems	8162 N. 400th St	483-6831
Yagow David	1412 E. 700th Ave	483-5836
Zig's Outdoor Power Equipment	4629 E. 500th Ave.	483-6184

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Below are a list of Businesses which provide Lodging, Dining, and Meals within the City of Altamont.

✠ MOTELS

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Altamont Motel | Details | View |
| 2. Best Western Carriage Inn | Details | View |
| 3. Super 8 Motel | Details | View |

✠ DINING & MEALS

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Altamont Dairy Bar | Details | View |
| 2. Caseys Carry-Out Pizza | Details | View |
| 3. Handy Dans | Details | View |
| 4. McDonalds | Details | View |
| 5. Old Carriage Inn | Details | View |
| 6. Railroad Street Coffee Shop | Details | View |
| 7. Subway | Details | View |
| 8. T J's Family Restaurant | Details | View |

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Altamont, Illinois

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The Wright House is a stately Victorian style home built by C.M. Wright I on a five-acre tract of land on upper North Main Street in Altamont, where originally stood a two-story frame house that was the Wright family home. In 1889, anticipating the building of the present home, the frame house was moved across North Main Street onto an acre plot that C.M. Wright I had purchased for five hundred dollars from heirs of John Ehlers; and it remained occupied by the Wrights while their new house was being built.

C.M. Wright had aquired additional land north and west of the first five acres until he owned twenty-seven acres lying west of North Main to the railroad and north of West Jackson to Union Cemetery, and also four town lots on the south side of West Jackson.

During the Wrights' occupancy of the first house, a number of outbuildings were constructed for the new house; a large barn on West Jackson, a carriage shed across West Jackson, an ice house immediately east of the barn (storing ice gathered from the B&O "tank pond"), a smaller barn and chicken house some seventy-five feet north of the large barn, a summer kitchen, a smoke house, a fruit cellar and a wood house all surrounding the back yard and the barn lot; the grove of woods was then an orchard.



The Wright House was built in 1889 by C.M. Wright I, who studied designs and planned the house and most of the details himself. The builder was C.H. Spilman of Toledo, Illinois who agreed to build the house for a total price of seventeen thousand nine hundred sixty-five dollars with the owner furnishing the materials. The total cost, not including furnishing, was approximately thirty-five thousand dollars.

The white stones in the foundation and the sidewalk are Bedford limestone from Southern Indiana. The bricks (four hundred thousand) came from St. Louis, Missouri. The cornices and window canopies are galvanized iron; the gutters are copper; the front veranda is cast iron and the original roof was Pennsylvania slate. The front yard was originally enclosed by a cast iron picket fence (painted dark red).

Since, in 1889, Altamont had as yet few, if any, of its modern public facilities, The Wright House was originally designed to be virtually self-sufficient. It had, for example, an artificial gas lighting system. An underground tank north of the house was filled with "high test" gasoline, and the gas evaporated there and was piped into the house and distributed throughout by the pressure of a piston powered by the slow decline of a huge drum filled with stones. This was called a Springfield Gas Machine. In each of the main rooms there was a chandelier of brass, with four or five glass-globed lamps; and there were a number of wall-bracket fixtures throughout the house. For 1889 this was very "modern" lighting, and it was the only such system in Altamont. It was used until the mid-1920s, when the house was wired for electricity. Only two of the original gas light fixtures remain today; the newel post lamp on the first

floor and the hanging lamp in the first floor hall. Since matches had to be available in each room to light the lamps, there were, and still are, small iron match safes in many of the rooms of the house.

The house had, and still has, a water system which was originally supplied from a double cistern west of the house filled with rain water from the roof, which was lifted, by a large pump, into a lead-lined tank in the attic, whence the water moved by gravity to the kitchen, bathroom and second-floor lavatories, one line passing through a hot water tank heated by the kitchen stove. In the 1920s the house was connected to the city water system.

The original heating system was a large boiler in the basement, fired by soft coal. In 1977 a gas furnace was installed.

The Wright House has 18 furnished rooms, including seven bedrooms. Much of the original furnishings are still in the rooms. It has a full basement and an unpartitioned attic loft, some twenty-five feet high at the roofs' peak.

The ceilings in the house are seven and one-half feet in the basement, eleven feet on the first floor and ten and one-half feet on the second floor.

The woodwork in the east wing is cherry and in the west wing is oak, and the furniture woods in the wings match the woodwork, except for occasional walnut pieces which the Wrights brought from their old house, hence, could date back to the 1870s or possibly even in the 1860s.

There are fireplaces in the parlor, library, living and dining rooms, and each has a marble mantelpiece.

The quality and durability with which the house was built and furnished are strikingly exemplified by the mirrors over the mantels which are bevel-edged and still, after one hundred-seven years, in good shape.

There are many pictures, photos, paintings, and drawings of this wonderful old house on display in the house and various other locations. One such picture in the house was taken not long after the house was finished and later inscribed as "Maplewood", which was what C.M. Wright II called the place. Notable in this photo is the Victorian style landscaping, featuring flower beds and trellises. The house's modern landscaping, with shrubs and hedges, was effected by C.M. Wright II in the 1930s.

On the first floor is located the parlor, the library, the livingroom, dining room, kitchen and one bedroom. On the second floor are five

bedrooms and a former bedroom that displays medical items from The Wright Building.

The second generation to occupy the home was Dr. C. M. Wright II, who practiced medicine in Altamont for 65 years, his wife and young son, Charles M. Wright III.

After retiring in 1977 as a corporate attorney for Shell Oil, Charles III moved back to Altamont to live in the old family home. Charles died in 2001. The Wright home was left in a trust to be preserved, maintained and operated as a public institution by a trustee of the Effingham State Bank. The Wright House Property not for profit) board included the bank trustee and community members.

On May 8, 1986 the house was entered in the National Register of Historic Places.

The House is open Sundays in June, July and August from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Closed most holidays. Group tours are given by appointment any other day. Phone 618-483-6397 for more information. Admission is \$4.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students (6-18 years).

Special Events:

Christmas Trees at Dr. Wright's House - December 4 & 5, 2004 from 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. The house will be decorated with trees provided by Altamont Chamber of Commerce businesses. Admission is \$5.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students.

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{Click On The Picture To Go To The Altamont Living Museum Website}

The information below is derived from the original information in the Altamont Quasquicentennial Book. Click on the picture above for current information.

A German Reformed Church had been organized in Altamont in 1872 and a building erected. On July 8, 1908, a group of citizens, some of them members of the German Reformed Church, petitioned the Mattoon Presbytery to be organized as a Presbyterian Church. A committee of three ministers and two elders was appointed, and on July 14, 1908, they met in Altamont with the Rev. G.W. Wessinger. The First Presbyterian Church of Altamont was declared organized with the congregation of 30 charter members including Mrs. Elenora Rhodes,

Mrs. Millie Custer, and Mrs. Myrtle Hinger.

For a time, services were held in the German Reformed Church. Not all members joined the newly-organized Presbyterian Church so in December, 1908, the Presbyterians vacated the German Reformed building, and services were held thereafter in a local hall until the new church was built.

Ground was broken for the new church June 10, 1912, the cornerstone placed September 11, and plans were made for the dedicatory services, February 16, 1913. From its beginning, the church maintained an active Sabbath School, and the Junior and Young Peoples' Societies. At that time, they had an enrollment of sixty-seven members. Some of the officials of the church were William Moorhead, Clinton Morrison, Archibald Sutherland, Sam Thompson, H.C. Chapin, and Robert L. Beach.

On February 17, 1963, the congregation observed the fiftieth anniversary of the dedication of the church. Members present at the dedicatory service February 16, 1913 were recognized and presented the Celtic Cross Pin, a symbol of the United Presbyterian Church in the United States of America.

In March of 1994 the congregation disbanded and a group consisting of Dan Lutz, Gerald White, Bruce Kessler, Jeanne Wolff and Vicky Milam purchased the building, organizing the Altamont Living Museum Ltd. to promote local and area art, talent, music, etc.

Current Board members include the organizers named above plus Linda Smith as the recording secretary. Membership can be purchased by all in the community.

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The Mill Road Thresherman History

***View the Events of the 2005 Mill Road Threshermans Association
Steam, Gas & Threshing Show***

The first show was held on July 24, 1982 as fun day by Louis Milleville to show his children how work was done in the past. On display were old gasoline engines, antique farm equipment and antique cars.

A neighbor, Wayne Mueller, hearing that Louis was wanting to hear the old machinery operating again, and show his family the way it was done in the past, said that he had the ideal place next to him in a wooded area owned by another neighbor, Elnore Scheidel.

Louis Milleville and his brother Wilbert grew up doing this kind of work. The brothers did custom threshing and some custom shredding, silo filling, baling and saw milling. When more combines came into use, Wilbert parked the threshing machine in a shed on his farm until Louis bought the machine from him in the early 1980's.

The first show was a success with 400 registering for the one day show. The event was held on property across from Interstate 70, drawing many people from the states of Illinois, Missouri, Kansas and California who stopped in to see and reminisce. Some had no idea of how it was done in "the good ole days".

The group continued to have meetings and elect officers. Elected as President; Louis Milleville, Vice-President; Ben Winter, Secretary; Roy Cochran and Treasurer; Arthur Trost. The official name of the organization became "Mill Road Threshing Association" since names of most people who help lived on the mile near Louis Milleville started with Mill or Muel.

It was decided to have the next event at the Effingham County Fair Grounds in Altamont, Illinois on the second weekend in July since there was more room to expand the event. As of 2004, the show will be held the fourth weekend in July.

The event has been held on the Effingham County Fairgrounds since 1983 and has expanded to a Friday, Saturday and Sunday with exhibitions and events such as corn shelling, threshing, grinding corn meal, showing and running steam engines, gasoline engines, horse & wagon rides, flea markets, children games, antique tractors & machinery, horse farming and old time baling demonstrations.

A Model Railroading Show was added several years ago on Saturday and Sunday with operating "N" thru "G" scale. Dealers are on hand to show and sell railroad supplies and workshops are available on request. Also on Saturday and Sunday a Civil War Encampment with period music is on the grounds.

Membership has grown to over 100 paid members. Some do not own any antique machinery but thoroughly enjoy helping and watching the old machinery. Over the years the show has grown and so have the people coming to watch the show. The first show drew 400 people and has increased in size and numbers each year.

Food concessions are available all three days of the show.

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The Ben Winter Museum is located 1 mile Southwest of Altamont.

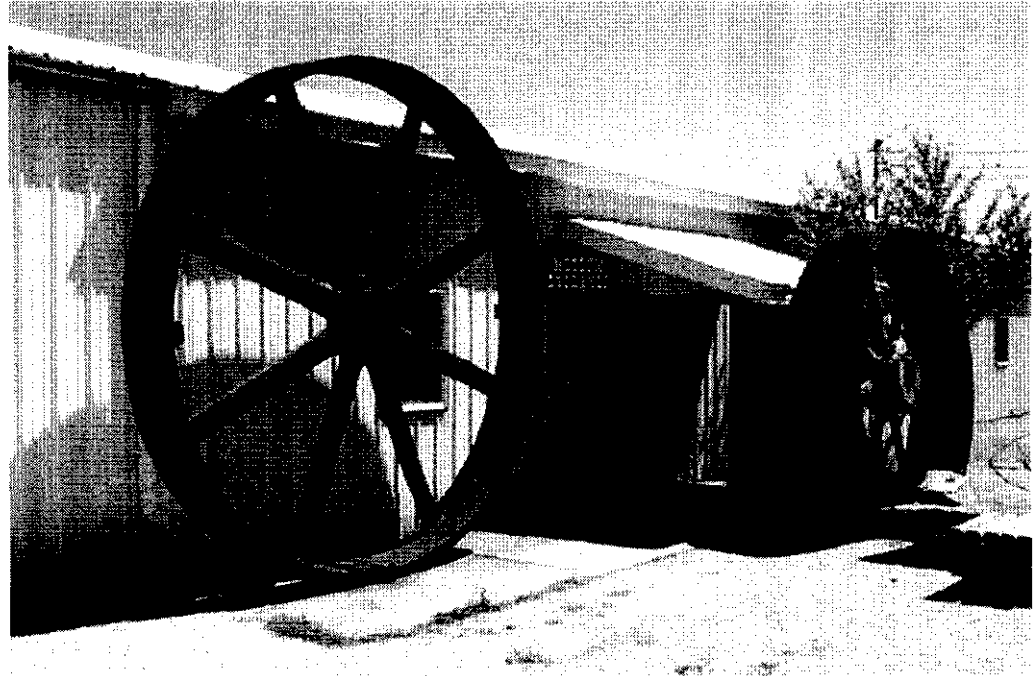


When Ben wants to let off steam, he literally lets off steam. He fires up one of his antique steam engines and relives a time when threshing a field of corn was an all-day job, requiring half a ton of coal and a thousand gallons of water.

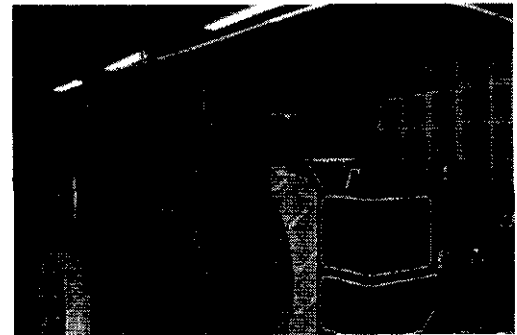
Ben grew up with steam engines as his father, Martin G. Winter, did custom threshing and shredding corn. Ben, as a very young boy, drove the water wagon with a team of horses as a steam engine required a lot of water for steam, and of course, had to be fired all the time. His family also did sawmilling and crushed rock with steam during the earlier years. Later, Ben, his father and his brother operated a quarry business, grinding limestone and road rock of different sizes. Ben's father died in 1953, and his brother George followed in 1964, leaving Ben to operate the quarry alone until he sold the business in 1980.

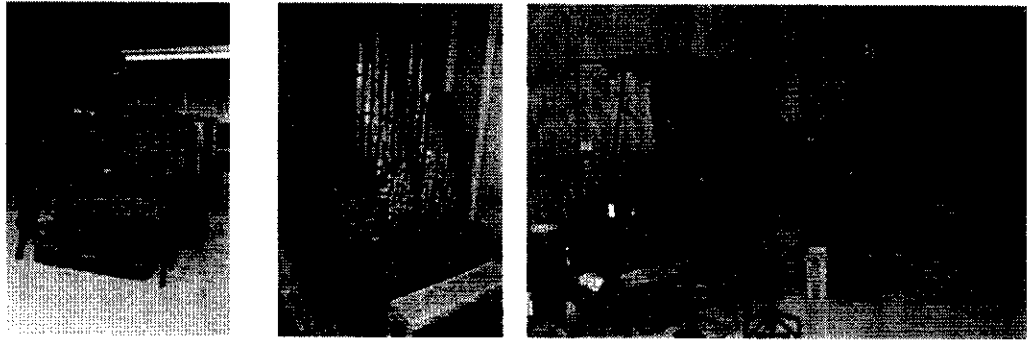
Ben then took up sawmilling and woodworking with Charles Koss, who had been a long time employee at the quarry, as his partner. That partnership was brief as Koss died in 1984.

With encouragement from the Millroad Thresherman Association, Ben began buying and restoring steam engines in 1981, amassing a large enough collection that he built a museum next to his home.



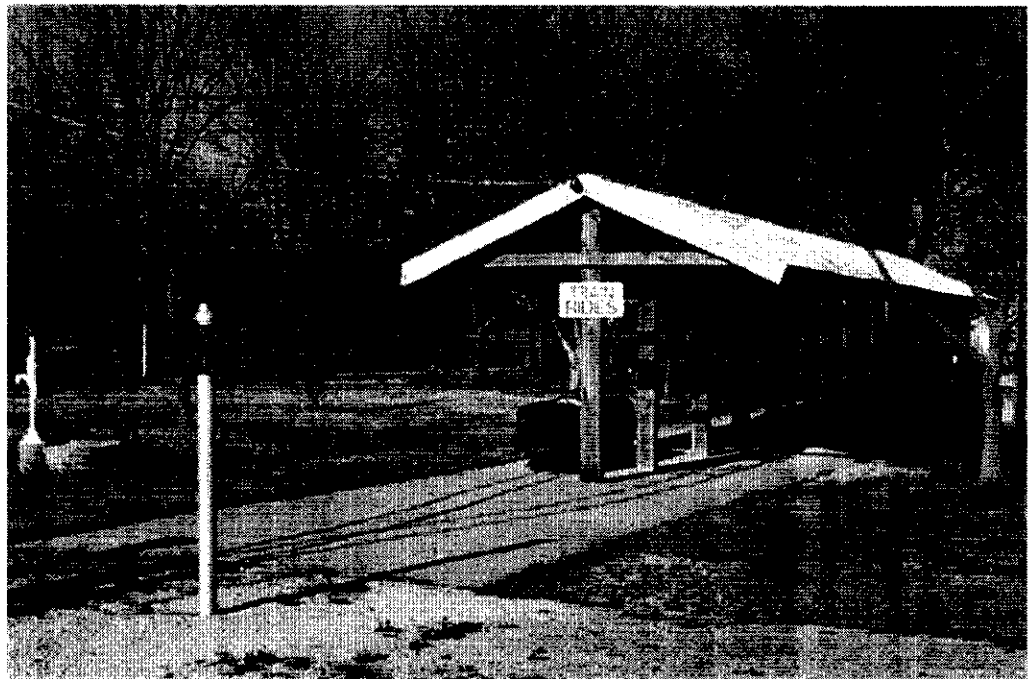
The Ben Winter Museum is home to fifteen steam engines, as well as several gas and oil engines and other antiques ranging from Victrolas to Linotype machines(from the Altamont News) to a complete pipe organ from St. Paul Lutheran Church ELCA which is in playing condition.

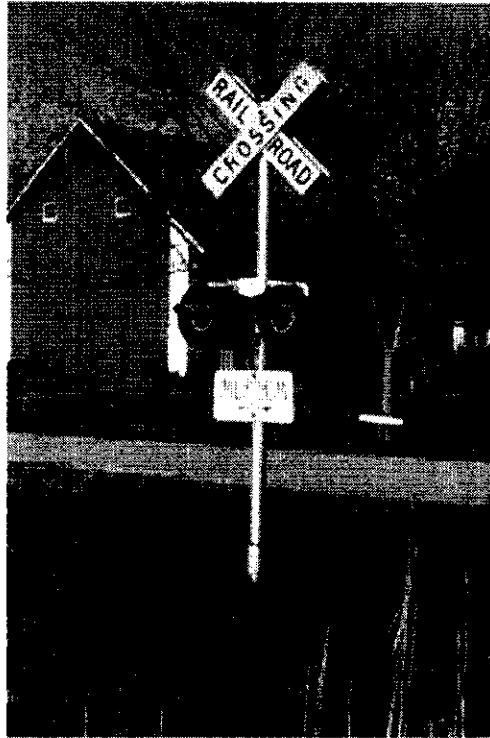




Each of Bens steam engines projects its own bit of history, which he relates to everyone who visits. Ben's largest steam engine is the old generating unit from the former Pet Milk Co. in Greenville. It took three tractor-trailer loads to transport the whole unit.

"Just the flywheel and pulley alone weigh one hundred tons," Winter says, adding that when the engine was running in Greenville, it had a smokestack eighty-five feet tall and fourteen feet wide.





Ben purchased two amusement park trains, a diesel and a steam engine, in 1991. He then laid thirty-three hundred feet of track through his orchard which has more than sixteen varieties of trees including pecan, apricot, persimmon black and English walnut and hazelnut. Thirty-five passengers can climb aboard and enjoy the scenery on a brief train trip.

A greenhouse has been constructed on the south end of the museum where young orchard plants can begin their long lives along side roses, fig trees, and orange, lemon and tangerine trees.

Winter also restores old cars and builds clocks and cedar chests; however, regardless of his seemingly busy life, this sign hangs on the door of a woodworking room "I'm open when I'm here. I'm closed when I'm tired."

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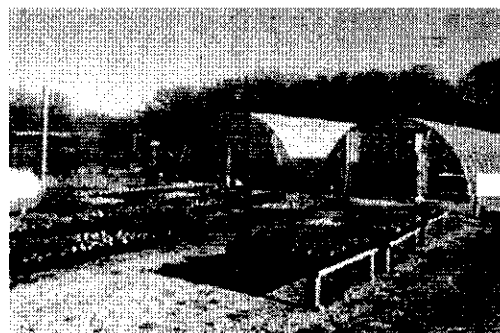
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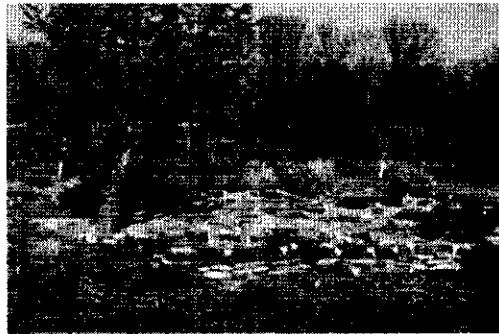
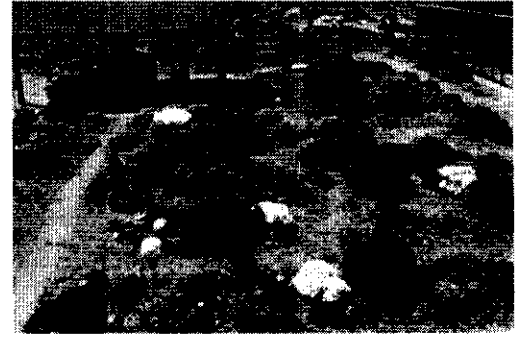
Alwerdt's Gardens is an ALL-American Selection Display Garden

They invite everyone to come out to the Gardens and see the All-American Selections in their own display area.

They are located 1 mile South Of I70 on US 128 South of Altamont. Follow the signs.



There are presently just over 200 All-America Display Gardens located in 30 states and provinces throughout North America. Alwerdt's is proud to be a part of this fine program.



When you come, be prepared to spend some time looking over the 6 acres of gardens that now have over 1,000 varieties of herbs, perennials, and ornamental plants on display for both sun and shade.
Gift Certificates are available



Alwerdt's Gardens is a member of Illinois Herb Association, Illinois Specialty Growers Association, Perennial Plant Association, Illinois Nurserymen's Association and American Hosta Society.

Altamont, Illinois

Alliance

Apostolic

Assembly of God

Baptist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH 618-483-6443
104 SOUTH COLE STREET, ALTAMONT, IL 62411

Bible

Brethren

Catholic

Charismatic

Christian

ALTAMONT CHRISTIAN CHURCH 618-483-6018
407 EAST LINCOLN, ALTAMONT, IL 62411

Christian Science

Church of Christ

Church of God

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Community

Congregational

Disciples of Christ

Episcopal

Evangelical

Fellowship of Christian Assemblies

Foursquare Gospel

Friends (Quaker)

Full Gospel

Independent Bible

Interdenominational

Jehovah's Witnesses

Jewish Christian

Lutheran

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 618-483-6395
203 EAST DIVISION, ALTAMONT, IL 62411

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH 618-483-5571
RURAL ROUTE 1, ALTAMONT, IL 62411

Methodist

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 618-483-6036 308 NORTH 2ND STREET, ALTAMONT, IL 62411

Mission

Missionary

Nazarene

Non-Denominational

Orthodox

Pentecostal

Presbyterian

Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Salvation Army

Seventh-Day Adventist

United Church of Christ

Unity

Wesleyan

Various Other Denominations


CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Rhea Lytle, hereby certify that I have on this 25th day of April, 2005 caused a copy of the foregoing "**COMMENTS AND COUNTERPROPOSAL**" to be served by first class U.S. mail, postage prepaid, upon the following:

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Rhea Lytle

*Via Hand Delivery